FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Israeli Air Raid — Israeli Air Force planes attacked two bases in the Ba'labakk area housing "terrorists" linked to Iran, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by IDF Radio early on 4 January. All the Israeli planes returned safely, he said, and the pilots reported "good hits" on their targets. Beirut radio reported that 50 people were killed and 300 were wounded in the raid, while Voice of Lebanon radio cited Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri as stating that 73 people were killed.

A Syrian military spokesman cited by SANA accused the Israelis of using delayed-action bombs and claimed that Syrian air defenses "confronted" the attacking aircraft and drove them away. The previous day a military spokesman had likewise asserted in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio that Syrian air defenses confronted and forced away Israeli planes which raided Lebanese nationalist positions in Bhamdun.

Security Plan — Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced in remarks reported by Beirut radio that the Lebanese Government has "finally approved" the security plan aimed at consolidating the cease-fire. Amal Movement leader Birri affirmed that the plan has the approval of both the National Salvation Front and the Amal, the radio noted.

Israeli Plan for South — The Israeli defense minister and chief of staff will present the Cabinet a plan to reduce the IDF presence in southern Lebanon by giving greater control over security matters to local forces backed by Israel, according to reports in *MA'ARIV* and *HA'ARETZ*. The plan calls for the IDF deployment in strategic locations that would ensure a secure northern border while limiting friction with the local urban population, *MA'ARIV* revealed. Senior officials in Jerusalem have given up the principle that the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon should be conditional on the simultaneous evacuation of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, the paper added.

As for "free Lebanon" commander Major Sa'd Haddad, both Jerusalem and Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope radios confirmed that he is critically ill with cancer.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba proclaimed a state of emergency, banned demonstrations, and introduced a curfew, Tunis radio reported. Public gatherings of more than three people are banned until further notice and security forces are authorized to use arms against anyone who refuses to halt when challenged. Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali said the extraordinary measures are designed to combat "sabotage, looting, and burning," which he blamed on a group of "vagabonds" followed by "misled youths," according to the radio.

Meanwhile, Education Ministry communiques broadcast by the radio announced the closure of all schools and colleges and an Interior Ministry communique urged citizens to remain calm and keep their children off the streets, thereby helping the security forces which have been deployed in "sensitive" areas.

Reporting on the situation in Tunis, Paris radio said the capital was calm after tanks and tear gas were used to quell violent student demonstrations in which some people may have died. The radio cited a provisional toll of 20 people killed in the rioting throughout the country, which was sparked by an increase in the price of bread. Tunis radio stressed that the withdrawal of grain subsidies has been accompanied by the introduction of measures to benefit the poor and needy.

Syria

Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Damascus with a message for President Hafiz al-Asad on the forthcoming Islamic summit and other topics, Damascus radio reported. The Iranian envoy will subsequently deliver messages to Libyan and Algerian leaders, according to Tehran radio.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee will meet soon in Tunis, Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan announced in remarks reported by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio after a lengthy round of Fatah Central Committee meetings in the Tunisian capital. Al-Hasan stated that the Central Committee deliberations were characterized by "absolute frankness" but denied that any comprehensive agreement was reached, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Fatah sources cited by the Ash-Shariqah papers *AL-KHALIJ* and *AL-ITTIHAD* disclosed that a majority of Central Committee members opposed PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Cairo, according to WAKH and WAM.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egyptian Envoy's Tour — Iraqi President Saddam Husayn received Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz, who conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak on ways to develop the "strong relations between the two fraternal countries" and on Arab affairs, INA reported. Before visiting Baghdad, Al-Baz had delivered a message from Mubarak to King Husayn, according to Amman radio.

Saudi-Libyan Contact — Saudi King Fahd received Libyan People's Assembly Secretary General Muhammad az-Zarruq Rajab on 3 January, SPA noted.

Iraq

Saddam Husayn and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan leader Jalal Talabani reached a comprehensive agreement last month ending years of conflict between the government and movement, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a diplomatic source in Baghdad. The agreement provides for a cease-fire in Iraqi Kurdistan, expansion of autonomy through free elections to local councils, establishment of a Kurdish army to defend "against foreign enemies," and financial assistance from the central government, the source disclosed.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian air defenses downed another Sukhoy-22 in the southern sector on 2 January, bringing the total number of Iraqi aircraft downed that day to three, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio asserted.

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Foreign Ministry Spokesman Scores U.S. Policy
LD021232 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] A spokesman of the DRA Foreign Affairs Ministry made the following observation while replying to a question by a BIA correspondent about Ronald Reagan's latest statement:

It appears from international news media broadcasts that the president of the biggest predatory power of the world, Ronald Reagan, who pursues an adventurist and mischievous policy recently issued another demagogic statement which is a continuation of hundreds of acts of intervention in the internal affairs of our independent and sovereign country. It appears that after the flopping of the notorious drama of the so-called seminar around Afghanistan at the U.S. State Department, Reagan has now resorted to another desperate effort. The objective is to justify before the world public opinion the continuation of the undeclared imperialist war against our revolution and people and to encourage, on the other hand, the brute counterrevolution which, as a result of the heroic struggle of our brave people, is nearing its complete annihilation with every passing day, to commit further crimes and massacres against our people.

Acting like a godfather, Reagan devotes the major part of his statement to praising the obscurantist counterrevolution and lauding its inhuman misdeeds.

One can easily see that the Reagan administration is very much pleased to see that the blood of innocent children, defenseless women, and old people is still being shed in revolutionary Afghanistan by U.S. lackeys and that still the burning of mosques, schools, and hospitals and the destruction of roads, bridges, and power transmission lines are continuing.

Thus yesterday, if we read in the statement of Reagan that the continuation of the undeclared war against the DRA has become the official and open policy of the militaristic Washington administration, now we can see that the Unilted States, being unable to conceal its hostility vis-a-vis our freeborn people, openly expresses its joy over the continuation of the bloodshed in our country and stubbornly extends promises for all kinds of assistance including sophisticated advanced weapons to professional terrorists.

Thus, the Reagan administration would not like this bloodshed to come to an end. Undoubtedly, the responsibility for all this bloodshed lies with these peddlers and their puppets. History will take them to task.

Of course, such an attitude by the present U.S. Administration, which is the most degraded representative of the military- industrial complex, surprises no one. It is not only our people who for the past several years have been feeling the unlimited hostility of this administration in the form of undeclared imperialist war and the existence of its hired bandits. In fact, all the awakened people fighting for their national and social emancipation are confronted with the animosity of the Reagan administration.

The Reagan administration demagogically speaks of Islam, on the one hand, and of the so-called defense of Islam, on the other hand. It has not sufficed with the military, political, and economic support to Zionism who under its instigation committed inhuman crimes against the heroic people of Palestine, the Lebanese patriots, and the Arab world and carried out the ominous massacre in the Sabra and Shatila camps. Now, the United States with the deployment of the military forces on the soil and seacoasts of Lebanon, have taken position against the Arab Muslim people.

Now, even Reagan himself is not out to conceal that aggression, intervention, and the military occupation constitute his major approaches for fulfilling his plunderous imperialist goals in the sphere of foreign policy. By using its huge war machine, Reagan's administration trampled on the rights of the people of Grenada, their sovereignty, and their independence, and with the occupation of this small island explicitly spoke of its occupation. This is the same administration which helps its puppet government in El Salvador by sending arms and militarymen for ever further murder of the Salvadoran people. By sending terrorists and saboteurs to Nicaragua, the Americans are resorting to subversion and murder in that country. As also, the United States threatens the other countries of the region including the heroic Cuba with the deployment of its naval forces.

Apart from all these, the Reagan administration not only intensifies its arms race by installing Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe and by the decision for their installation in some of the countries of the region but openly talks of a limited or atomic war. To achieve this aim, the U.S. Administration extends the dimensions of the arms race to the airspace of other countries. The establishment of the CENTCOM for commanding the rapid deployment forces in the Gulf region and Indian Ocean in order to threaten the sovereignty of the littoral and their neighboring states, dragging Japan ever further into the military axis of the United States, Japan, South Korea, pressuring the NATO allies to increase military expenditures,and the establishment and reinforcement of aggressive military bases in different parts of the world, including our neighborhood, all these are examples of the militarist frenzy of the Reagan administration.

Yet inspite of all this, Reagan permits himself to talk of human rights. The mention of our country by him in military language clearly exposes his intention to continue bloodshed in our country. As a gift of the new year, if the Reagan administration is interested in ending the bloodshed in our country, he can simply make a realistic decision to accept the defeat of his aggressive policies against our country and take a decisive step toward the peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan by ending completely the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan.

But, in any case, our heroic people are determined to continue their struggle for the defense of the homeland and the achievements of the revolution and, by inflicting crushing blows to the half dead body of the counterrevolutionaries, will force Reagan and his allies to accept eventually the realities in revolutionary Afghanistan.

Despite all the criminal interventions of imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction of the region, under the PDPA's leadership, the

workers of our homeland will sooner or later create a prosperous society for themselves and their children.

However, the justified hatred of our people will be directed toward those who desperately try to delay with their inhuman and criminal methods our course toward this humane goal.

Announcement on Conscription Regulations
LD012257 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Announcement by office of chief of staff of DRA Armed Forces]

[Text] As our compatriots know, the heroic Armed Forces of our beloved homeland — revolutionary Afghanistan — with utmost bravery and heroism have resolutely defended the gains of the national democratic April Revolution and have inflicted fatal blows on the enemies of the honor and tranquillity of the free and toiling people of our country. Our Armed Forces will continue resolutely and with dedication to struggle against the traitors and sworn enemies of the interests of the toilers. This is the patriotic and grand duty of the Armed Forces of the DRA, and the Armed Forces have full and strict belief in it.

Therefore, considering these principles, the office of the chief of staff of the DRA Armed Forces announces:

1. To provide facilities for those people who have reached draft age and those who meet the requirements for (?partial) reserve callup and want to volunteer for the DRA Armed Forces and also those students over the age of 18 who have failed their final examinations and want to join the Armed Forces, it has been decided that they will be assigned to the garrisons of large military units. Therefore, the dear compatriots should first present their official applications directly to the organization department of the Defense Ministry in the capital or to the relevant military commissariate in the province so that they can be assigned to the units of military garrisons.

2. A number of deceived compatriots have obtained forged documents from traitors to the homeland. A large number of such forged documents have been seized through the positive and fruitful work of the conscription commissions of military commissariates, and the forgers who had them were arrested. Therefore, all compatriots are being informed that they should not be deceived by these traitors to the homeland and should surrender all forged cards and documents to the relevant authorities. They should voluntarily present themselves for sacred military service. Those carrying these forged documents will be dealt with according to the law. Esteemed compatriots should patriotically cooperate with the authorities in exposing such fraudulent profiteers and traitors. People who meet the conditions for military service, who are caught with these forged documents, will be punished according to the law dealing with conscription violations.

3. Following this announcement, all compatriots are being informed that all male citizens of the DRA are required to carry all specific official identity cards, such as documents on completion of military service, exemption, temporary deferment, student card, or the civil service card. These documents should be produced upon request of conscription officials. If people without proper identity cards are caught by relevant officials and if they meet the conditions of conscription into the Armed Forces, they will be dispatched to sacred military service without any exception. No reasons or excuses will be accepted.

4. Those civil servants and government employees who meet the conditions for military service and (?partial) reserve callup and whose duties or specialized field of education are not included in supplement No 2 of the resolution approved by the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA Council of Ministers dated 9 August 1983 should go to the local military commissariate, so that they can be dispatched to the units of military garrisons of their place of work.

5. No official authority or person responsible for control of documents has the right to destroy or invalidate an individual's documents. People under suspicion should be turned over to military commissariates to be dealt with according to the law. Offenders will be punished. Dear compatriots can take such people to military commissariates and responsible authorities.

6. All military commissariates in the capital and provincesare responsible for carrying out their duties according to the orders of this announcement and to observe official [word indistinct] according to previous plans regarding the distribution and dispatch of volunteers to local garrisons.

7. This announcement is valid until 20 March 1983. Volunteers who do not report for military service before the deadline will be dealt with according to the military conscription law.

Karmal Visits Quake-Damaged Area 31 December
LD311811 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this morning visited a number of houses and buildings damaged as a result of this morning's earthquake. He expressed sympathy to those families who suffered losses.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Babrak Karmal, accompanied by Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications, and Mohammad Anwar Farzam, member of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at 1630 today visited Sahibuzaman Communal Mosque, located in the center of Afshar village of Kabul City, and also several houses which were particularly damaged as a result of this morning's severe earthquake.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that, in accordance with Babrak Karmal's instructions, immediate assistance to the earthquake victims was given this morning by the Accident Prevention Department of the Council of Ministers and by the Afghan Red Crescent Society with the cooperation of the Kabul City Party Committee and security authorities. A delegation consisting of representatives of the Accident Prevention Depart-

ment, the Red Crescent Society, the Kabul City Party Committee, Kabul Municipality and National Fatherland Front's Kabul City Council was also charged with assessing the damage.

There are no reports to date of loss of life and material damage caused by this earthquake in the provinces. In the event of any loss or damage in the provinces, measures will be promptly taken by government authorities to assist the victims.

As a result of this morning's severe earthquake and its subsequent light tremors, which shook Kabul City and its surrounding regions, financial losses were incurred and a number of people were injured. Kabul University Engineering Faculty's seismological center registered the earthquake at 0423 with its epicenter reportedly to the northeast of Kabul and its intensity at least 7 on the Mercali scale. The seismological center said that the exact epicenter of this earthquake was unclear because of the distortion of the registration belts. However, the approximate epicenter of the earthquake is determined to be 280 km northeast of Kabul in the area of Badakhshan Province. The epicenters of the other three light tremors which shook Kabul and its environs at 0534, 0606, and 0616 were in the same location.

'Islamic Group' Leaders Captured, Killed

LD012228 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] In continuing the crushing and arresting of counterrevolutionary bands, 40 traitors to the homeland and people belonging to the so-called Islamic group, were recently arrested by the vigilant security forces in (Charsang), (Samarqandian), and Hesarak villages of Balkh District, Balkh Province. The ringleaders of the so-called Islamic group, Abdorraouf and his (?deputy) Hassan were also captured.

A source at the Balkh Province security force told a BAKHTAR correspondent that Mokhtar, leader of the so-called Islamic group, and the ringleader of a 100-strong group of the same band, Mo'alem Qayum, were killed along with four members of the group. The source added that various weapons, four vehicles, and a number of documents proving their links with criminal bands abroad were seized from the criminals by the security forces.

'Bandits' Mopped Up, Weapons Seized

LD040622 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0437 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Kabul, January 3, BAKHTAR — As a result of the successful operations launched by the security forces throughout the country large groups of bandits, the traitors to the homeland and revolution, were mopped out. Recently a group of bandits including their leaders named Lajvard known as prosecutor and Jelani from the Gulbuddin band were crushed in Charasia village of Khan Abad. Moreover, large amounts of various weapons made in Britain, Egypt and Chinese, including rocket launchers (berno), bombs and documents proving the connection of the bandits with the enemies of the people living abroad were discovered during the operation.

Guerrillas Attack Qandahar Garrison 21 Dec

TA301529 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Dec 83

[Text] Reports reaching Pakistan from Afghanistan say that antigovernment guerrillas launched an attack against a military garrison in the southern city of Qandahar last week. Ian Howe, reporting from Islamabad, says the raid is the latest sign of a deterioration in security in Qandahar, Afghanistan's second biggest city.

[Begin Howe recording] The reports quoting eyewitnesses who have come over the border to the western Pakistani city of Quetta say the attack was launched against the main Army garrison in Qandahar City on Wednesday [21 December] night last week. A group of guerrillas wearing Army uniforms were said to have entered the garrison with the help of some resistance sympathizers among the Afghan officers, who account for a large proportion of the men stationed there. There was apparently some fighting that night and this became heavier the next day.

The reports say 14 Army officers were killed and more than 20 soldiers defected to the mujahidin. The guerrillas are said to have left the garrison the day after that, and the eyewitnesses said that about 50 wounded soldiers were taken to a hospital in Qandahar that evening. Between 6 and 10 guerrillas are said to have been killed in the operation.

The reports say Soviet planes bombed suspected guerrilla strongholds just to the north of the city at about the same time. One source gave higher casualty figures for the raid and said they were inflicted when guerrillas took up positions on the roof of the garrison. Several different resistance groups are said to have cooperated in the attack.

There have been a series of reports in recent months from Western diplomats and the resistance indicating that security in Qandahar has been deteriorating with mujahidin groups not only ambushing convoys on the surrounding roads, but penetrating more effectively into the builtup areas. According to resistance sources, Soviet troops arrested several hundred people in the area 3 weeks ago in an attempt to clamp down on the guerrillas, and Soviet planes were said to have heavily bombed three villages to the south of the city at that time. [end recording]

Karachi Reports Fierce Clashes in Zabol Province

BK011550 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] There are reports of fierce clashes between Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces in Kabul and in the Zabol Province of Afghanistan. A news agency said that despite heavy bombings by aircraft, the mujahidin have further tightened their siege around the (Atkhar) area of Zabol Province. The reports also said that during the battle in this area, a number of Soviet-Karmal forces, including some officers, were killed. The mujahidin also destroyed several armored personnel carriers.

SPA: Soviet Helicopter Downed, Crew Killed

LD022101 Riyadh SPA in English 1913 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 2 (SPA) — A Soviet helicopter was shot down and its crew killed last week by Afghan Mujahidin in Johargir area of Qonduz Province in northern Afghanistan close to Soviet borders, unofficial AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS (AAP) reported here today.

Meanwhile, the MUJAHID PRESS AGENCY (MPA) said during past two weeks, Mujahidin in Nigarhar area not only liberated Khiva country killing its sub-governor but also captured seven military post of the communist regime.

A majority of Afghan Government soldiers and militiamen at captured posts surrendered to Mujahidin, it added.

Dost Discusses Foreign Policy Goals

For an undated interview given by Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost to APN's Kabul correspondent, published in Moscow *SELSKAYA ZHIZN* on 30 December, in which Dost discusses foreign policy goals and prospects for normalization, see the South Asia section of the 3 January Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT*.

Opposition Rejects Ershad Dialogue Offer

BK0311503 Hong Kong AFP in English 1441 GMT 3 Jan 83

[By Golam Tahaboor]

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 3 (AFP) — The two major opposition alliances today rejected military ruler Hussain Mohammad Ershad's offer for a dialogue and said they would go ahead with a nationwide half-day general strike tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the official news agency BSS announced that the five-hour night curfew in Dhaka would be lifted from tonight. The curfew was imposed following bloody anti-government demonstrations on November 28 in Dhaka and Chittagong in which six people were killed and over 1,000 people arrested. No reason was given for the unexpected lifting.

Lieutenant General Ershad last night invited opposition leaders to meet with him Saturday to discuss Bangladesh's transition to democracy and other important national issues. He said the demands put forward by the various political parties would be on the agenda. However, he did not mention a lifting of the ban on political activity, which the two alliances have put forward as a precondition for joining a formal dialogue with the government.

The alliances, which link a total of 22 parties, said in separate statements that Lieut. Gen. Ershad's move was aimed at confusing the people and undermining the strike call.

All political activity, including strikes and meetings, was outlawed following the November clashes.

Despite the ban, groups of mostly students paraded the streets of the capital today urging shops, offices and schools to close and vehicles to keep off the road during tomorrow's dawn-to-noon strike. Leaflets and posters were distributed, and street corner meetings have been held since last night in crowded areas of Dhaka, witnesses said. Most of Dhaka's educational institutions reopened on January 1, including the volatile Dhaka University, where tension has been mounting as students held meetings protesting the military regime. No action or arrests by security forces has been reported, however.

The government has not commented on the strike call by the two alliances, which are led by Begum Kaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the Awami League.

Strike Appears 'Failed'

BK0409O2 Hong Kong AFP in English 0749 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 4 (AFP) — The half-day general strike called for today by two opposition alliances appeared to have failed in the Bangladesh capital as traffic flowed normally and shops and businesses opened at their usual hour this morning.

No violence was reported from Dhaka, but reports on the nationwide strike in other towns were still awaited.

The strike was called by two alliances of 22 parties which are spearheading protests against the military government of Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

However at least 15 people in a small group of marchers who were chanting slogans favouring the dawn-to-noon strike were arrested in the capital's Gulistan area last night, police said.

Eyewitnesses also said that small groups of students pelted police with bricks as the authorities cordoned off Dhaka University early this morning as a precaution against the strike call.

Eyewitnesses said the northern side of the university was littered with stones, apparently from some confrontations.

Armed police patrolled Dhaka's streets on lorries and jeeps but no military troop movement was seen this morning.

Yesterday the opposition rejected Gen Ershad's offer for a dialogue with them on Saturday concerning Bangladesh's transition to democracy.

The alliances said the government had failed to meet their main condition for joining a dialogue: lifting the ban on political activities, which were suspended on November 28.

Gen Ershad said Monday when he invited the opposition leaders to meet with him that demands from the various parties would be on the agenda.

Yesterday the official news agency BSS announced that the five-hour night curfew in Dhaka was to be lifted beginning last night.

The curfew was imposed following anti-government demonstrations on November 28 in Dhaka and Chittagong in which six people died and more than 1,000 were arrested.

Sri Lankan Minister Comments on Economic Cooperation

BK030805 Dhaka BSS in English 0640 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 3 BSS — Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have adopted some specific proposals on a wide range of economic and trade fields designed to step up bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Sri Lankan Minister for Planning and Finance, Mr Ronnie de Mel, now on a ten-day visit to Bangladesh, told a press conference here today after he signed a joint statement that there were ample scopes for developing trade and economic cooperation between his country and Bangladesh.

Mr. de Mel listed trade, shipping, civil aviation, tourism, information and culture as the major fields where the two South Asian countries could fruitfully develop collaboration.

Bangladesh and Sri Lanka already have a joint economic agreement between them signed in 1979 which, Mr. de Mel said, so far made little headway in furthering bilateral economic relations.

The Sri Lankan minister, however described the proposals which contained in the joint statement as practical and concrete foundation to give effect the 1979 bilateral economic agreement.

Under the new proposals, the two countries would now have some institutional arrangements to remove the deterrents in the way of implementation of bilateral economic cooperation.

Briefs

Grant Agreement With UK — Dhaka, Dec 30 BSS — Bangladesh will receive taka 38 crore (10 million pound sterling) from the United Kingdom under a commodity grant agreement signed yesterday between the two countries. The agreement, which is tied, will enable Bangladesh to import raw and semi-finished materials, fertilizer, components, spare parts and small items of capital equipment from Britain. Total British assistance since independence of Bangladesh now stood at 301.66 million pound sterling, of which commodity aid figure is over 108 million pound sterling. Total food aid, project aid and technical assistance provided by Britain to Bangladesh since [year indistinct] till June this year is over 192 million pound. [Text] [Dhaka BSS in English 0653 GMT 30 Dec 83 BK]

Gandhi Denies Confrontation With National Conference

BK040355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister has asserted that her government does not want to topple any non-Congress-I government; rather, we want them to complete their full term, she said.

Addressing a news conference at Raj Bhavan [Governor's House] in Ranchi, Mrs Gandhi said there are certain norms which the state governments should accept and observe. She denied any confrontation between the Congress-I and the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to violence in Punjab, Mrs Gandhi said the government is trying to check individual terrorism there. The problem is very critical and delicate and we cannot aggravate the situation, she added.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said that when she came back to power in 1980, inflation was as high as over 22 percent. We are trying to control it, she added.

On the relationship between India and the United States, Mr Gandhi said that we are neither for nor against anyone.

Earlier addressing a public meeting, Mrs Gandhi said that the external threat the country is facing can be successfully met if we remain vigilant. But the internal threat is dangerous as it sprouts from divisive forces like regionalism, casteism, and communalism. She pointed out that the country is self-reliant in foodgrains and we have made remarkable progress in other fields, including science. A number of development programs have been taken on health and education for the poor, she added.

Calls Kashmir Events 'Unfortunate'

BK041004 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The prime minister has underlined the important role of social scientists in the task of developing the country. Mrs Gandhi said they can suggest ways and means for achieving a balanced development. She was inaugurating the year-long silver jubilee celebrations of the A.M. Sinha Institute of Social Sciences in Patna. Earlier, the prime minister was accorded a warm welcome on arrival at Patna airport on a day's visit to the city.

Addressing a news conference at Raj Bhavan in Ranchi yesterday, Mrs Gandhi asserted that the government does not want to topple any non-Congress-I government. Rather, we want them to complete the full term, she said. The prime minister said there are certain norms which the state governments should accept and observe. She denied there is any confrontation between the Congress-I and the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir. She said we are cooperating with the Jammu and Kashmir Government. Mrs Gandhi regretted that the opposition parties are describing the burning of the national flag and raising of anti-Indian slogans in Jammu and Kashmir as an outburst against the Congress-I. She described as unfortunate the recent happenings in that state, such as the baton charge on the Congress-I workers and burning of shops of party supporters.

Jammu, Kashmir Government Reacts to Allegations

BK311642 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir Government has demanded a probe by an all-party parliamentary committee into the allegations leveled by the Congress-I at its 77th plenary session in Calcutta. Addressing a news conference in Jammu today, the state information minister, Mr Mohammad Shafie, said such a protest will erode the atmosphere of trust in the state. He also refuted the charges of violence against Congress-I workers.

Mr Shafie reiterated that the National Conference will continue to work for a strong and prosperous India.

Congress-I Kashmir Official on Summary Trials

BK011456 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh [State] Congress-I chief, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, has expressed alarm over the state government's move to subject his party workers to a summary trial at the central jail in Srinagar. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said this was yet another nail in the coffin of the rule of law in the state. He said the Congress-I workers have been carrying on a peaceful agitation against the misdeeds of the state government, but they are being tried under a special law meant to deal with communal and antinational elements.

Law Minister Reacts

BK021357 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir law minister, Mr Handoo, has denied that Congress-I workers arrested in the Kashmir valley are being tried in secret or by summary courts. He was reacting to the charge levelled by the Pradesh Congress-I chief, Mr Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, that there is a move to subject his party workers to a summary trial at the central jail in Srinagar. Speaking to newsmen in Jammu today, Mr Handoo however admitted that the trial of the Congress-I workers was necessitated in Srinagar central jail when they tried to block court proceedings at Anantnag last week.

Jammu, Kashmir Chief Minister Attacks Congress-I

BK031639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has alleged that the Congress-I is creating disturbances in the state with the aim of destabilizing his government. He told a news conference in New Delhi this evening that it was with the same objective that charges were leveled against his

party at the Congress-I meetings in Bombay, Kurkshetra, and Calcutta.

Dr Abdullah reiterated his suggestion for a team of members of parliament to investigate the Congress-I charges against his party. He said he will resign if it is proved that a single Pakistani flag is flying in his state.

In reply to a question, he expressed his fear that the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, is not being given the correct picture of the situation in the state. He also denied that he had ever supported the Sikh extremists or that any camp had been held in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Jammu and Kashmir governor, Mr B.K. Nehru, today met the home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, in New Delhi. The meeting lasted about 15 minutes.

The Congress-I has appealed to all democratic forces in the country to raise their voice against, what it says, the undemocratic and politically motivated actions of the Jammu and Kashmir state government. [sentence as heard] A party release in New Delhi today says that the state government deserves all condemnation in invoking the provisions of the special law against Congress workers, who have been struggling relentlessly for restoration of democratic rights in the state. To prosecute Congress workers, who stand for the unity and integrity of the country, is unjustified and politically motivated, the release adds.

Congress-I Supporters Attacked in Srinagar
BK040302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Agency reports from Srinagar say that 12 Congress-I supporters were injured when they were attacked by a group of people outside the Srinagar central jail yesterday. A Congress-I press release said the party supporters had gone to the central jail to meet their relatives arrested during the recent clashes.

CPI Terms Congress-I Stance 'Anti-Imperialist'
BK040345 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The Communist Party of India has expressed the view that the Congress-I session in Calcutta has taken a good anti-imperialist position on the international situation and firmly advocated peace. In a statement, the CPI general secretary, Rajeswar Rao, said that the party will continue to strive for a consensus on unity and security of the country.

Communist Party Official Rules Out Merger
BK010857 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] The secretary of the Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M], Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, has said there are many positive aspects in the foreign policy of the government and his party extends its unreserved support to it. Speaking to newsmen at Bangalore, he said India's condemnation of the American invasion of Grenada is one such correct stand.

He reiterated his party's continued support to the Janata government headed by Mr Ramakrishna Hegde in Karnataka. He also ruled out any possibility of a merger of the CPI and the CPI-M in the new year.

Police Official, Constable Shot in Punjab
BK310745 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Text] A police subinspector and a constable were shot dead by a few unidentified persons at Sultanpur Lodi near Kapurtola in Punjab yesterday evening. A PTI report said the incident occurred while the policemen were on patrol duty. Senior police officials are already on the spot for investigation.

President Postpones Punjab Visit Until February
BK030526 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] The president's visit to Punjab has been postponed to next month. Giani Zail Singh was to visit the state on the 7th of this month.

Akali Dal Rejects Offer on Dispute Referral
BK030516 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] The Akali Dal chief, Mr Harchand Singh Longowal, has rejected the government's offer to refer the dispute about Chandigarh, Abohar, and Fazilka to the Supreme Court. Talking to newsmen in Amritsar, he said there is no question of referring the matter to the Supreme Court.

Khomeyni Addresses Governors, District Officials
LD031249 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 84

[From the headlines]

[Text] Governors and district officers from all over the country,together with members of the rural Islamic councils attached to the Reconstruction Crusade, met at Jamaran Mosque this morning with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At this meeting, the imam of the nation, while comparing the fabric of the Islamic Republic of Iran Government with that under the monarchical regime — when all the officials of that regime treated the farmers in an inhuman manner and did what they could to hurt, humiliate, and exploit the farmers but were abject and weak when confronting foreign ambassadors — said: The difference between the Islamic Republic and the monarchical regime is that the Islamic Republic and its officials come from among the ordinary people and are indebted to them whereas the monarchical regime dominated the people and treated them accordingly.

The leader of the Islamic Revolution, addressing the governors, district officers, and other officials of the Islamic Government, stressed: I hope that just as your appearance is modest today, your spiritual and mental attitude is likewise. Imam 'Ali, peace be upon him, was so upset by cruelty that when they removed the anklet from a non-Muslim woman, he said: It is not a fault if a person were to die of sorrow. [as heard] The imam of the nation emphasized: You should not believe that holding an office is so very important; what is important is to please God; and that depends on being able to please God's creatures. Ordinary people, farmers and employees and workers in factories are reasons for this nation to be proud and are our masters. We should treat our masters in a way that would please God.

The founder of the Islamic Republic, referring to the fact that guarding the fruits of the Islamic Revolution is more difficult than the victory itself, said: You have taken your destiny in your own hands while the hands of America, Russia, and Britain have been cut off. This is no mean achievement. Guarding this achievement is most important. Those who have been defeated by you will not sit still but are trying to take revenge for their defeat. True to their usual behavior, they are trying to bring about your defeat by your own hands. Therefore, you should be very careful.

The imam of the nation, emphasizing the fact that one of the things on the minds of the Islamic Revolution's enemies is the Majlis, said: In the previous regime, efforts were made to weaken the morale of the people and to push them aside so that they could have a free hand in electing certain people. They used to employ foreign experts who instead of training people would prevent the people from learning. But today, no power in Iran can impose anything on the people and the elections are in the hands of the people.

The leader of the Islamic Revolution said: Today, the president and the prime minister, as well as this farmer and that bazaar merchant, have each just one vote in the elections; there is no difference between their votes; they are all responsible.

Concerning the important task of governors and district officers, as those responsible for the implementation of the elections, the founder of the Islamic Revolution said: Nobody has the right to issue orders in the elections, unless the order is for something good. But, to say who should become a deputy, that is contrary to Islam.

Addressing the public, the imam of the nation said: When trying to distinguish between the suitable and the unsuitable, do not rely on others' say-so unless those others are 100 percent trustworthy. If they recommend someone who is not suitable in your opinion, it would not be right for you to vote for them: You should find out for yourselves.

The leader of the Islamic Revolution said: To be a good person, to pray on time, and to hold evening prayers are not enough for the Majlis. The Majlis needs people who are committed to Islam and in favor of the Islamic Republic and, at the same time, those who are statesmen, economists, and knowledgeable about the world situation.

The imam of the nation stressed: Those who serve in the Majlis committees should be knowledgeable about economics, agriculture, and world issues. Our Majlis, which wishes to run today's Iran in face of today's world of invaders, should be the type of Majlis that could stand up to these invasions.

Addressing those in charge of holding the elections, the leader of the Islamic Revolution said: If one of you were corrupt, that would damage Islam and the Islamic Republic and the responsibility for that would be yours. The manner of holding the elections should be in accordance with Islam and without influence from anybody, lest, God forbid, there is misconduct. Care should be taken on that score.

Addressing the Muslim nation of Iran, the hope of the oppressed world said: All the people are dutybound to vote. That is safeguarding Islam. To stand aside would be contrary to the interests of Islam. The people should participate and leave the running of their affairs in the hands of eligible individuals who will benefit the country from a political, economic, and every other standpoint.

The imam of the nation stressed: The elections should be considered a religious duty. They should be held properly and the people should participate appropriately. If the people were not to participate and Islam were damaged, they would be responsible.

Official Leaves for Syria, Libya, Algeria
LD031709 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] The political under secretary of our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry this afternoon left for a visit to Syria, Libya, and Algeria. He is carrying a message from President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i for the heads of state of these countries.

Friday Imam Condemns U.S., French 'Plots'
LD301256 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Millions of of our Muslim compatriots observed the auspicious political-religious Friday prayer sermons throughout the country today. Tehran University, as on previous Fridays, witnessed a vast congregation made up of Tehran's Muslims and revolutionary citizens attending the political-religious, unity-inspiring Friday prayers, this eternal Islamic tradition, held under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani.

Beginning his second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani, referred to the recent missile attacks by the Iraqi-Zionist regime against our populated cities and the meeting between Reagan's envoy and Saddam: From the very beginning the imam — may his lofty shadow be extended — said something which probably was not fully appreciated by all. However, history has shown how meticulously his statement was thought out — that the attack launched by the Iraqi-Zionist regime on Iran is an attack on Islam, in other words, an attack by blasphemy against Islam.

Tehran's provisional Friday imam added: In an interview, Mitterrand said: Saddam's attack on Iran was not planned since Saddam thought that he would capture Khuzestan and that Khuzestan's Arabs would support him and that he would be able to settle accounts with Iran. However, the attack did not break up Iran but instead made the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran more cohesive and brought about the unison and coordination of people from various parts of the world with the Iranian people. Mitterrand said: One should bar [as heard] the war to that Islam demonstrated by the imam.

A similar interview was given by Reagan. Reagan mentions the name of the imam of Islam, saying: This Islam offered the people by the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran is in the process of becoming internationalized and we must stop the internationalization of Islam.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emani-Kashani then expounded the repeated plots hatched by global arrogance against Iran's Islamic Revolution: Following the explosions which took place in Kuwait Saddam said: I will take revenge for these explosions against Iran. Following that he dragged our city populations in blood and dust. When the U.S. and French Embassies were demolished they falsely attributed the act to Iran.

Referring to the deep anxiety shown by Western countries over the dispatch of multinational forces to Lebanon, Tehran's provisional Friday imam then said: The Italians, too, wishing to withdraw from Lebanon, are asking: For how long must we remain servants of the United States?

Referring to the filthy aims pursued by the United States with regard to the visit to Baghdad by Rumsfeld, Reagan's envoy, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin then said: The visit took place in order to continue U.S. (?plots) in the Middle East. It shows that Islam is the most important and fundamental issue for global arrogance and, for that very reason, it has spread the rumor in certain Islamic countries that we want to spread Islam. This is because of its fear of the 1 billion Muslims throughout the world.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,593
LD031745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,593 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. According to a report by the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, another intruding Sukhoy-22 belonging to the aggressive Iraqi Army was shot down yesterday morning by the air defense units of the Navy over the southern region. The number of Iraqi aircraft downed yesterday morning now totals three.

Yesterday, exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued between the defenders of our Islamic homeland and the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries on the Piranshah and Marivan fronts and in the Bakhtaran border regions. Exchanges of fire were more intense in the Sumar region. Our forces, continuing to consolidate their defensive positions, opened heavy artillery fire on enemy positions, communication lines, and patrol groups. The enemey's movements and fire were halted and losses and casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi forces. In the Piranshah region, an enemy truck and an observation post were set on fire and destroyed.

On the Marivan front, a truck carrying ammunition and a command vehicle of the Saddamists were destroyed. Our heroes managed to repulse two enemy patrol groups in the Kodu Heights and Panjwin regions and inflicted losses on them.

On the southern fronts, the combatants of Islam continued to defend their positions and returned fire on Saddamist defense positions and weapon trenches. Our forces killed or wounded several enemy servicemen. Exchanges of fire were more intense in the Faqih region. During a series of fire exchanges on the Abadan and Khorramshah fronts, the combatants of Islam based on these fronts fired on enemy positions and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroyed more than 11 of the enemy's light and heavy weapons emplacements, killed a number of enemy personnel, and silenced their heavy weapons fire.

The city of Abadan yesterday came under sporadic artillery fire from the Iraqi forces; no losses or casualties resulted.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Khomeyni Meets Guard Corps, Esfahan Officials
LD021451 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] Mr Mahalati, the imam's representative at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Mr Mohaqeq, an official of the imam's representative office at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Esfahan region; and Mr Reza Seyfollahi, new commander

of the Esfahan region, were received by Imam Khomeyni, commander-in-chief. The imam of the nation addressed them: The people of Esfahan are good and committed. You gentlemen who go there should be careful not to favor any individual. You should try to keep the Corps independent. Of course, you should be sincere toward all. You should try to avoid differences of opinion. Your main preoccupation should be the war. You should boost the morale of the people. I hope you will be successful in doing your work.

Gendarmerie Commander Arrives in Esfahan

GF030550 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] Colonel Kuchakzadeh, supreme commander of the Gendarmerie, arrived in Esfahan and was greeted with special ceremonies attended by the governor general of Esfahan, Karbaschi; the imam's deputy in the political-ideological department of the nation's Gendarmerie, and the military commanders of the Esfahan bases.

The Gendarmerie supreme commander, along with those welcoming him, visited and laid flowers on the last resting place of the fourth martyr of the Mehrab Ayatollah Ashraf-Esfahani and prayed for the martyrs.

According to the Central News Unit correspondent, Col Kuchakzadeh then attended the graduation parade of the soldiers at the steel mill battalion base. Various political-ideological officials and commanders of the Esfahan Gendarmerie bases were present. After the ceremonies bestowing ranks and oath-taking of the soldiers' representatives, Col Kuchakzadeh delivered a speech. The supreme commander of the Gendarmerie spoke of training in the Islamic Republic: We should acquire knowledge which is on the path of God as it is character-forming, and when an individual enters a society with such training, he closes the doors on all other ideologies. He added: If your efforts for this nation are (?on the path of God), then they are also a form of worship. Defense of the Islamic country's frontiers is also worship. Similarly, your struggle with your (?enemies) is also worship and the brothers who [words indistinct].

These ceremonies concluded [words indistinct] by some of the graduating students was displayed. Later the personnel passed under a copy of the Koran and a portrait of Imam Khomeyni.

Montazeri Meets With Officials 30, 31 December

Judicial Council Members

LD311205 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Text] Members of the Supreme Judicial Council met in Qom yesterday with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. They held talks with his eminence on various judicial issues. During the meeting, his eminence praised the members of the Supreme Judicial Council for their activities. He also issued instructions regarding the situation of prisoners, courts, and cultivated farming areas which are under dispute.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also met with Mahalati, the imam's representative in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and with Khalkhali and Salavati, deputies of the people of Qom and Esfahan at the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

Lebanese Clergyman

LD011343 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Raghib Harb, one of the struggling clergymen of Lebanon, yesterday met and conferred with Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom, briefing the ayatollah on recent struggles and demonstrations staged by the Lebanese people.

While praising the united demonstrations by Shi'a and Sunni Muslims in Lebanon, Ayatollah Montazeri said: The resistance and self sacrifice shown by the Muslim nation of Lebanon in the face of interference by Zionists and foreign forces in that country give reason to be hopeful. According to clear promises in the Koran, their victory, God willing, is inevitable. His excellency concluded: May God support them and foil the conspiracies of the enemies of Islam by courageous and struggling Muslims.

According to the same report, Mohaqeq-Damad, head of the State Inspectorate Organization; Marvi, prosecutor of the disciplinary court of the judges; Friday imams of Abadan, Sirjan, Tabas, and Mahmudabad; several Iraqi ulema; and Hadi and Khosravi, Tehran and Mianduab deputies at the Majlis separately met Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday.

At his meeting, the Sirjan Friday imam presented the ayatollah with four million rials cash, more than half a kilogram of gold, and some silver donated by the people of Sirjan to help the war effort. His excellency, while thanking and praising the people of Sirjan, prayed for the final victory of the brave combatants of Islam on all fronts.

Trial of Tudeh Party Members Continues

Defendants Plead Guilty

LD021156 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 1, IRNA — The trial of five more members of the military wing of the defunct pro-Moscow Tudeh Party resumed here today with all the defendants pleading guilty to the charges brought against them.

During the trial the court heard the indictments of the servicemen Najmollah Mehrpur, Feridun Moradi, Ali Kazemi, Muhammad Hassan Javadi, and Bahman Nezami and then the defendants spoke in their defence.

Muhammad Madhi Partovi and Muhammad Moa'zez, two of the high ranking Tudeh Party officials in charge of the clandestine military wing were brought to the court to give evidence as informed sources.

All the defendants pleaded guilty to the charges which included holding membership of the party after Imam Khomeyni's decree that forebade political party membership of the military and law enforcement forces, passing military information to the Tudeh Party as well as paying monthly contributions.

The court will continue the trial of yet more military elements of defenct Tudeh Party on Tuesday when it will next reconvene.

Three More Testify

LD041039 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 3, IRNA — "The party (Tudeh) which I knew showed itself in line with the revolution and supported the constitution...I was member of this party, not the party whose leaders admitted spying (for the Soviet Union) and attempts to overthrow the government," Nasser Gorji said in his defence to the military tribunal of the Islamic revolution today.

Gorji said the "ugly" televised confessions of the Tudeh leaders were a different picture than the one he recognised as a member of the party. He also expressed deep "revulsion" to the hypocritical actions of the Tudeh leaders.

He said he was unaware of the party's secret military organisation but paid 1,000 rials ($12) every month as a party membership fee for 16 months.

Membership by militarymen in all political parties was banned by Imam Khomeyni in a decree in 1982.

Gorji said he was never aware of the secret military organisation or its intentions. He said the extent of his activities in relation to the Tudeh was the reading of the party's open publications.

But he said he had told the party about changes in his commander's post from a "liberal" to a committed revolutionary, as well as other reports.

"I hope the just Islamic court will take into consideration the difference between individuals like me, who had stepped (into the party) with sincerity and made a mistake, and those who were active in the party with the intention of committing treason," he added.

The other defendant, Meghdad Dehqani said he was attracted to the Tudeh's slogans against big landowners when he was a young boy in the village in late 1940s. He said after the revolution he was attracted to the Tudeh because of "sweet memories." But he said he never gave classified information to his party contacts and he only passed oral information about elements in the army who were still loyal to the defunct monarchy.

The prosecutor, Colonel Atabaki, however, charged that Dehqani had in fact given several confidential and secret documents to the party. Dehqani denied the charges.

Abdolhamid Afshar, the other defendant in today's tribunal, said he supported the Tudeh Party because it claimed support for the revolution and the Islamic Republic. He said later developments which revealed the party's nature were "shocking [word indistinct]."

The tribunal will hold further sessions Wednesday.

Commentary Views ICO Morocco Meeting

GF310744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0441 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Commentary by research group of Central News Unit: "What Are Aims Being Pursued by ICO?"]

[Excerpts] According to news agency reports, the ICO will resume discussions on 16 January in Morocco. These reports state that a few days before the inauguration of the conference of the heads of states, a preliminary session will be held on the level of participating ministers in (?Dar Beida).

Without doubt, the convening of a conference which embraces all the Islamic countries is a cherished dream of the world's Muslims. However, due to the affiliation of the reactionary regimes ruling over the Islamic countries, the ICO has been unable to achieve tangible results with regard to the superpowers' aggression against the Muslims or solve the fundamental problems of Islamic countries. Therefore, in its last session inBangladesh, in which the Islamic foreign ministers met, this conference ended without tackling the root of the overall problems of the Islamic world which is inspired by Islamic injunctions. The most significant example of such by the above conference was the hypocritical attitude of most of the participating countries on the issue of the imposed war of the Ba'thist Saddam regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran,in which they abstained from identifying the aggressor which had initiated the imposed war and committed aggression against an Islamic country and they refrained from condemning the aggressor and contented themselves with the adopting of a stereotyped resolution which was not backed by any specific action to be taken for its implementation.

In this regard, our foreign minister, Dr Velayati, said in his latest interview regarding the conciliatory attitude of the ICO vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran that Iran will not participate in the upcoming conference of this organization in Morocco. He added: Instead of castigating these crimes with the services of other international organizations such as the International Red Cross and the United Nations, the ICO did not express any suitable reaction regarding the atrocities of the Zionist Saddam regime on the Islamic soil of Iran.

In any case, the presence and existence of reactionary regimes in the ICO will endeavor to give an Arab bias to the upcoming conference and return the ruling regime of Egypt to the fold of Islamic countries. It is necessary to recall that the membership of Egypt's ruling regime was suspended at the 1979 conference following the signing of the shameful Camp David accord.

Continuing his interview, our foreign minister alluded to the antagonistic attitude of King Hassan to the Islamic Revolution and his multilateral support to Saddam in the imposed war and recalled the constant support of King Hassan to the former shah

and stressed that in our opinion, a person who favored the late As-Sadat regarding collusion with the Zionist regime and is paving the way for the return of Egypt to the ranks of the Arab countries and has given military bases to the greatest supporter of the occupationist Zionist regime, that is, the United States and by repression of the Saharan Muslims, in practice, isworking against the Muslim nation's interests and with the convening of the Fes summit has created an unfavorable precedent vis-a-vis the support of the existence of the Zionist regime and hence is in no way fit to host the Islamic conference.

In any case, the forthcoming ICO summit will meet in three weeks under circumstances wherein its performance during the past 14 years has proved that this conference has not been able to solve the problems of the world Muslims in a radical manner.

Political observers are of the opinion that despite opposition and the influence of the reactionary regime's agents, the Islamic Republic of Iran in its capacity as the largest Gulf state has an important role in the ICO. Undoubtedly, due to its Islamic character and the attention focused on it by the Islamic nations as the only country which moves ahead in conformity with the injunctions of Islam, its presence or absence has a far-reaching affect on the importance of motivating the Islamic nations to hold the above conference. Without any doubt, from the perspective of an Islamic nation which has pinned its hopes on the expanding Islamic movement for the salvation of the honor and (?dignity) of the Muslims from the yoke of the superpowers, the participation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this conference will lend credence to the conference resolutions; its nonparticipation will render them impotent and unimportant.

Radio Iran on Call for Demonstrations

GF281748 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Dear listeners: Attention, attention! We have just received a communique from our Paris office. We draw your attention to this important communique:

The group which organized the proud antiregime protest demonstrations on Friday, 14 Mordad [5 August], to mark the anniversary of constitutionalism in Iran informed Radio Iran last month that after 5 months of studying national problems and after consulting Dr Shapur Bakhtiar in Paris, it has drafted a new plan for the greater manifestation of national aspirations. The 14 Mordad organization, which with its grand antiregime demonstrations on the 14th of Mordad impeded the pseudonationalists of the Islamic Republic, now through Radio Iran calls upon the patriotic elements to prepare to stage similar antiregime demonstrations on the anniversary of take-over of Iran by this satanic regime, that is, on the day marking the beginning of the dark period and oppression of the Iranian people.